CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claim Amendment Summary

Claims pending

- Before this Amendment: Claims 1-7, 15-19, 64, 65, and 67-71
- After this Amendment: Claims 1-7, 15-19, 64, 65, and 67-75

Non-Elected, Canceled, or Withdrawn claims: none

Amended claims: 1-4, 15-17, 64, 65, and 67

New claims: 72-75

Claims:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A computer-implemented method for hashing a body of text, the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format, wherein the textual content of the obtained computer-readable formatted body of text is mutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

filtering the textual content the body of text to remove elements of the textual content, wherein the filtering act produces filtered subtext, which is a subset of the textual content of the body of text;

formatting the filtered subtext into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted filtered subtext is

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immutable via software tools for manipulation of the textual content of bodies of text;

deriving a hash value representative of the textual content of the filtered subtext, perceptually distinct filtered subtexts having hash values that are substantially independent of each other, wherein the deriving comprises hashing the image-based formatted, filtered subtext resulting from the formatting.

2. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1, wherein perceptually distinct image-based formatted, filtered subtexts have hash values that are independent of each other.

3. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising comparing hash values of two image-based formatted, filtered subtexts to determine if such values match.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising comparing hash values of two image-based formatted, filtered subtexts to determine if such values substantially match.

5.   (ORIGINAL)   A method as recited in claim 4 further comprising indicating whether such values substantially match.

6.   (ORIGINAL)   A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 1.

7.   (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 3.

Claims 8-14 are **CANCELED.**

15. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A computer-implemented method for hashing a body of text, the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format;

filtering the textual content the body of text to remove elements of the textual content, wherein the filtering act produces filtered subtext, which is a subset of the textual content of the body of text;

formatting the filtered subtext into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted filtered subtext is immutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

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deriving a hash value representative of the filtered subtext, perceptually similar filtered subtexts having proximally similar hash values, wherein the deriving comprises hashing the image-based formatted, filtered subtext resulting from the formatting.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method as recited in claim 15 further comprising comparing hash value of a image-based formatted, filtered subtext to determine if such value is proximally near hash values of a group of image-based formatted, filtered subtexts having proximally clustered hash values.

17. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method as recited in claim 16 further comprising grouping the image-based formatted, filtered subtext with the group of image-based formatted, filtered subtexts if the hash value of such subtext is proximally near the values of the group.

18. (ORIGINAL)   A computer comprising one or more computer-readable media having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by the computer, perform the method as recited in claim 16.

19. (ORIGINAL)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method as recited in claim 16.

Claims 20-63 are **CANCELED.**

64. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format, wherein the textual content of the obtained computer-readable formatted body of text is mutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

filtering the textual content the body of text to remove elements of the textual content, wherein the filtering act produces filtered subtext, which is a subset of the textual content of the body of text;

formatting the filtered subtext into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted filtered subtext is immutable via software tools for manipulation of the textual content of bodies of text;

deriving a hash value representative of the textual content of the filtered subtext, perceptually distinct filtered subtexts having hash values that are substantially independent of each other, wherein the deriving comprises hashing the image-based formatted, filtered subtext resulting from the formatting.

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65.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs the method comprising:

obtaining a body of text containing textual content in a computer-readable format, wherein the textual content of the obtained computer-readable formatted body of text is mutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

filtering the textual content the body of text to remove elements of the textual content, wherein the filtering act produces filtered subtext, which is a subset of the textual content of the body of text;

formatting the filtered subtext into a defined image-based format, wherein the textual content of the defined image-based formatted filtered subtext is immutable via software tools for manipulation of textual content of bodies of text;

deriving a hash value representative of the filtered subtext, perceptually similar filtered subtexts having proximally similar hash values, wherein the deriving comprises hashing the image-based formatted, filtered subtext resulting from the formatting.

66.   (CANCELED)

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67. (CURRENTLY AMENDED)   A method as recited in claim 4 further comprising indicating suspicion of plagiarism between the two filtered subtexts when the compared hash values of the two <u>image-based formatted,</u> filtered subtexts substantially match.

68. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences.

69. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences and the derived hash value is representative of the textual content of the body of text.

70. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A method as recited in claim 15, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences.

71. (PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)   A method as recited in claim 15, wherein, before formatting, the textual content of the body of text comprises multiple words and sentences and the derived hash value is representative of the textual content of the body of text.

***** **NEW** *****

72. (NEW)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the filtering further comprises removing superfluous elements from the textual content, thereby leaving a remaining textual content and re-arranging the remaining textual content into a canonical format.

73. (NEW)   A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the filtering further comprises pseudo-randomly extracting elements of textual content for inclusion in the filtered subset, wherein the pseudo-random extraction is based, at least in part, upon a cryptographic key.

74. (NEW)   A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the filtering further comprises removing superfluous elements from the textual content, thereby leaving a remaining textual content and re-arranging the remaining textual content into a canonical format.

75. (NEW)   A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the filtering further comprises pseudo-randomly extracting elements of textual content for inclusion in the filtered subset, wherein the pseudo-random extraction is based, at least in part, upon a cryptographic key.

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